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The World in Brief

Nicaragua reports threats based in U.S.

Managua, Nicaragua (Reuter)—Nicaraguan Defense Minister Humberto Ortega said yesterday his country was arming itself to face threats of aggression originating in the United States.

He told a press conference the arms buildup was defensive in nature and did not cost Nicaragua "even a single centavo." He refused to say which "revolutionary and progressive forces as well as from mature governments" were supplying the arms, which he termed donations.

The U.S. State Department recently said it had unconfirmed intelligence reports that Soviet T-55 tanks had been shipped to Nicaragua and others might be on their way from Cuba.

German gets life as a spy for CIA

East Berlin (Reuter)—An East German military court yesterday sentenced a West German to life imprisonment on charges of spying for the Central Intelligence Agency, the official ADN news agency reported.

The report said Dieter Vogel's trial revealed that the CIA and West German intelligence worked closely together.